

SAMARITAN

Education for Liberation
5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 306
Los Angeles, California 90029-1196
213.464.5100



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Samaritan College is the professional school of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), an international Christian denomination with a special outreach to the lesbian and gay community.

UFMCC was called into existence to proclaim and live out God's unconditional love for all of creation. Samaritan College is proud to serve a crucial function in the on-going ministry of the UFMCC by providing creative avenues of education and resources to equip people of faith.

This student handbook is designed to provide the basic information needed by Samaritan College students. It seeks to bring together, in one convenient form, a wide range of policies and procedures.

This overview allows creative possibilities for the expansion of the UFMCC educational process. Supplemental course and site lists will be issued from time to time to keep you apprised of the on-going work.

Important changes in policy or procedure will be distributed in a form which can be added to this handbook. Samaritan College reserves the right to make amendments or changes in individual cases with or without prior notice.

It is my hope that you will find this presentation helpful and supportive of your ministry and vision. I celebrate with you the rich spiritual diversity of UFMCC in the world and I solicit your prayers and support for Samaritan College as we continue to face the challenges of providing quality education.

Sandra L. Robinson
President



سamaritan

Samarian College
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Samarian College is the professional school of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), an international Christian denomination with a special outreach to the Arab and gay community.

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Sandra L. Robinson
President

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Samaritan College is the professional school of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Church (UFMCC). The UFMCC is an international Christian denomination founded in 1968 by the Reverend Elder Troy D. Perry to respond to the need for a non-homophobic place of worship for lesbians and gays.

Samaritan College's task is to generate study and reflection about the uniquely prophetic mission of the UFMCC in proclaiming an inclusive Christianity while developing theology of sexuality and liberation. It is a testament to the longings and courage of an international lesbian and gay community that no longer accepts invisibility and invalidation.

Students with vocational clarity and spiritual commitment will find encouragement and assistance in broadening and deepening their faith and vocation.

Samaritan holds that the New Testament concept of ministry places emphasis on "calling" and "function" rather than "position" and "status". This is consistent with the understanding of ministry in the UFMCC.

Samaritan College recognizes its responsibility to offer training for the special needs of the UFMCC's ministries as well as for the broader aspects of Christian ministry. For this reason, in addition to traditional courses that most seminaries

offer, Samaritan provides courses and seminars that cover human sexuality in the Scriptures, in Christian tradition, and in the practice of ministry. Also presented are an inclusive understanding of God and humanity, the developing theology and ethics of UFMCC, and UFMCC polity and programs.

In the process of Samaritan's journey, we seek to shape, and be shaped by women and men who are committed to the Gospel as explicated in the scriptures; to the task of theological education; to the ministry of the church; and to the realization of God's righteousness, justice and grace for all people.

SAMARITAN COLLEGE POLICIES

STATUS

Samaritan College's current status is as a "religious exempt" institution under the California Education Code Section 94303(b).

The College complies with all state and federal antidiscrimination laws and regulations in the administration of its admissions and educational policies.

INCLUSIVENESS

Inclusiveness is an attitude or stance of mutuality and openness toward others that recognizes everyone's right of equal access to the experience and realization of wholeness, and it is a commitment to remove barriers

between individuals and among communities that deny such access.

Inclusive language reflects a sensitivity to overcoming barriers that exist between individuals and among communities in such areas as: gender, race, class, age, physical differences, nationality, theological beliefs, culture, and lifestyle.

(Report of the Elders Task Force on Inclusive Language to the 1981 General Conference, Section 1.)

Language reflects, reinforces, and creates reality. Therefore, Samaritan College, in keeping with the Inclusive Language guidelines adopted by the UFMCC at General Conference 1981, is committed to the use of inclusive language in our com-

mon discourse. Samaritan College adopts the guidelines of the General Conference mandate on inclusivity as its policy for all written work and as a goal for all verbal discussion.

Samaritan College is open to all persons whose backgrounds and abilities qualify them for post-secondary professional education. Neither admission to studies nor qualification for graduation is discriminatory with respect to age, sex, race, sexual-affective preference, or physical disabilities. This policy is interpreted to include nondiscrimination in admissions and graduation on the basis of any catastrophic illness including AIDS, ARC or HIV antibody status.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Within Samaritan College's administrative structure which serves students from the time of inquiry to the time of their withdrawal or graduation, records are maintained with integrity and discretion. These records may not be released to third parties without written permission of the student except those necessary to pursue collection of past due bills or loans.

Because Samaritan College recognizes that persons with AIDS, ARC, or positive HIV antibody status often experience discrimination, such knowledge will be held in strict confidence. Such information from student or employment files will be disclosed to third parties only with the individual's written permis-

sion. In small group processes, such information regarding a person's health status shall be shared with others only by the affected individual and shall not be revealed by anyone else.

CONSENSUAL RELATIONSHIPS

Consenting romantic and sexual relationships between faculty and student, or between supervisor and employee, are considered extremely unwise. Codes of ethics for most professional associations forbid professional-client sexual relationships. Samaritan College views the instructor-student relationship as one of professional-client. The respect and trust accorded an instructor by a student, as well as the power exercised by the instructor in giving praise or correction, grades,

recommendations for further study, etc., greatly diminish the student's freedom should sexual favors be included among the instructor's demands.

Faculty and students are cautioned against the costs of even consenting relationships, in regard to the academic efforts of both faculty member and student. A faculty member who enters into a sexual relationship with a student must recognize that professional power differential exists; if a charge of sexual harassment is subsequently lodged, it will be extremely difficult to assert innocence on grounds of mutual consent.

This policy applies to Samaritan College, the conduct of students, faculty, support staff, administrative staff, and the Board of Trustees.

SAMARITAN DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

DEFINITION

"Partnership" is the method Samaritan College has chosen to provide stimulating and quality instruction for the ministries of the UFMCC in as many places as possible. Therefore, the Samaritan College "Campus" exists wherever Samaritan College classes, seminars or workshops are taught.

The UFMCC District structure provides convenient geographic segments for demographic tracking and manageable administration of the business of the College.

The Partnership is an administrative cooperation which provides:

1. A scholarship fund within the District for educational opportunities for students seeking licensure in UFMCC or for students pursuing a Bachelor of Theology Degree from Samaritan College.
2. An annual student clergy weekend for those interested in pursuing credentialed ministry in UFMCC; persons who are "in-care"; student clergy registered with the CCCC; clergy interested in transferring their credentials from other denominations to UFMCC; persons who intend to pastor a UFMCC congregation.
3. Facilities and Samaritan-approved faculty for course presentation.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Partnership is to provide a place and Samaritan-approved faculty for training and education according to the needs and culture of the District and UFMCC.

Whenever and wherever possible, Samaritan College will enter into cooperative agreements with other educational institutions and seminars that offer non-homophobic educational opportunities.

OBJECTIVES

The Partnership creates:

1. A forum for greater collegiality between students.

2. A District scholarship fund.
3. College programs offered on a regular basis in every District.
4. Development of faculty resources in every District.
5. Accessible academic and experiential training in non-homophobic environments.
6. Minimum expenses for college-level courses.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Samaritan College's academic school year is presented 4-4-4, in three term trimesters:

1st Term	January-April
2nd Term	May-August
3rd Term	Sept.-December

The Samaritan/District Partnership provides creative avenues to complete coursework. According to the availability of qualified faculty and student schedules, classes may be presented within the four month term:

1. Weekly
2. During consecutive weekends.
3. Intensively before, during, or after District Conferences.

Exceptional calendar dates include no classes during:

Holy Week
Thanksgiving Week
Christmas Week
New Year's Day

No regular classes will take place at locations other than General Conference during General Conference. Special classes will be presented at General Conferences.

Samaritan College courses may be taught as seminars when the faculty member agrees to meet the required objectives for the course.

Courses taught in the Orientation to MCC Pastoring (OMP) program are not available by seminar and can only be recognized for credit when taken in the OMP program.

ACADEMIC STUDY POLICIES

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class meetings, participate in class discussions and activities and complete assigned work in a timely manner. Attendance and participation are essential to obtaining the full academic benefit from the course.

Students who miss 25% or more of any course may be dropped with a failing grade unless arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Any Degree student whose grade point average drops below 2.0 will be placed on academic probation. Degree students on probation must raise their average to the 2.0 minimum within two trimesters. Students who fail to do so will be dismissed from the Degree program.

Any student wishing to appeal a grade or file a grievance must do so within one trimester of the last scheduled class meeting. Such a request must be submitted in writing to the Dean with a copy to the instructor.

The Dean or administrative designee has 30 days to respond

to the request. If needed, a meeting may be scheduled between the student, instructor and the Dean or his/her representative. The decision of the Dean is final and must be submitted in writing to the student within 30 days of the decision.

INCOMPLETE COURSES AND EXTENSIONS

The work of a course is terminated on the last day of the term. The performance in the course is evaluated on the basis of the work submitted by that time, unless an exception is made by the instructor. Extensions can only be granted by the instructor. If the work is not completed by the end of the term, or in special circumstances, by the end of an instructor-approved extension, a "No credit" will be given.

MAILING IN COURSEWORK

It is not wise for a student to depend upon the postal service when meeting deadlines. Only if materials are sent by registered or certified mail can one show a receipt indicating proof of a mailing time when the materials

have been delivered late or lost. Students are advised to always retain their notes and copies of their papers.

INTEGRITY OF WRITTEN MATERIALS

Writing papers, preparing sermons and written presentations and conducting scholarly research are an important part of the student's education.

Students are expected to consult many sources of information e.g. books, journals, newspapers and magazines, as well as audio/video materials. Whenever students quote from or paraphrase another source, they must given an appropriate citation. The quote or paraphrased matter must be properly identified according to a standard form such as Kate Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers and Dissertations or W. G. Campbell's Form and Style in Thesis Writing.

ADVISORS

It is suggested that Students seek counsel, about their Degree Program, from the Educa-

tion Facilitator in the student's District, the nearest Regional Dean (when applicable), or a member of the faculty.

EVALUATIONS

Instructors complete an evaluation form with one copy given to the student and one copy filed in the Registrar's Office (Administration Office in Los Angeles).

Each student is expected to complete an evaluation form on the course and instructor. A copy is given to the instructor and another is filed in the Administration Office.

GRADING SYSTEM AND CREDITS

The instructor notifies the student of the grade and returns papers and or other materials to the student. Grades are recorded into the student file by the Registrar.

Credits (post-secondary level trimester units) are given for the successful completion of Samaritan courses. One credit is earned for every twelve hours of class time and/or project time in the case of Independent or Field Study. Letter grades will ordinarily be given, but in some cases, pass/fail grades will be used.

Candidates for the UFMCC professional ministry may use Samaritan College credits toward their academic proficiency requirements. However, if the student intends to request admittance to the Bachelor of Theology Degree program, they must fulfill the program requirements for admission.

GRADE	SIGNIFICANCE	POINTS
A	Exceptional (90-100%)	4
B	Above Average (80-89%)	3
C	Average (70-79%)	2
F	Failure (Below 70%)	0

GRADE	SIGNIFICANCE
P	Pass
W	Withdraw
I	Incomplete
NC	No Credit

GRADUATION WITH HONORS

After computation of a student's grade point average, the following distinctions at graduation may be awarded in conjunction with the Bachelor of Theology Degree:

3.50-3.75	cum laude
3.75-3.95	magna cum laude
3.95-4.00	summa cum laude

TUITION AND FEES

All tuition is payable in full at the beginning of the class or in accordance with a payment plan set up by UFMCC Districts which have a contractual Samaritan/District Partnership program in effect. Tuition is payable only to Samaritan College except as specified in Partnership policies. In such cases, checks should be made payable to the sponsoring District. There is a \$10.00 charge for checks which are returned "insufficient funds."

Credit	Class Hours	Tuition	Auditing Fee
1	12	\$ 85.00	\$ 50.00
2	24	\$170.00	\$100.00
3	36	\$255.00	\$150.00

Admission Fee

Students requesting admission to the Degree program are required to submit a \$100.00 fee with their application. This is a one-time fee; \$50.00 of which is applied to the student tuition.

Registration Fee

To register for a course, each student is required to pay \$25.00 each for one or two courses, or \$50.00 for three or more courses taken in the same term. This fee covers the cost of presenting the course, (e.g. use of facility, materials and transportation costs to the faculty.)

Registration fees shall not exceed \$50.00 per student per term. Where applicable, the registration fee is paid to the Samaritan District Partnership along with tuition. Otherwise, the fee is payable to Samaritan College.

Where applicable, the Samaritan District Partnership will notify the Registrar's Office of any student who has not paid the fees or signed a payment plan. Registration is not complete until payment or payment arrangements have been made.

Students who have not made arrangements to pay outstanding bills may not register for courses in subsequent terms (including the Orientation to MCC Pastoring (OMP) program or Correspondence Courses until such arrangements are made. Tuition and fees must be paid before official transcripts and diplomas can be issued.

Transcript Fee

A \$10.00 fee is charged per student request for transcripts. This fee does not apply to Orientation to MCC Pastoring (OMP) transcripts sent to the Clergy, Credentials and Concerns Committee. A request may include transcript issuance to several schools. The fee is charged on a "per occurrence/request" basis, not necessarily per transcript. Transcript requests must be submitted in writing. No other form of request can be honored.

Graduation Fee

A \$50.00 graduation fee is charged to help defray graduation expenses. This is a one-time-only fee.

SCHEDULE FOR RETURNABLE FEES AND CANCELLATIONS

If a student must withdraw from or cancel his/her atten-

dance for any reason, after the full tuition and fees have been paid, the following schedule will apply:

1/2 - 1 credit course

Full tuition refund less a \$10.00 record keeping fee before class begins; no refund after classes begin.

2 credit course

Full tuition refund less a \$10.00 record keeping fee before classes begin; 50% tuition refund before the second class session.

3 credit course

Full tuition refund less a \$10.00 record keeping fee before the third class session; 50% tuition refund before the fourth class session.

OMP Students: consult the annually published OMP brochure for refund policies. Students who must withdraw from the OMP program after commencement must notify College officials immediately. Generally refunds cannot be granted once the program has begun.

FACULTY

Faculty members for Samaritan College are approved by the Dean and President of the College. Faculty are deemed qualified to teach a given subject on the basis of their academic training, personal study, and/or practical experience.

The College faculty include clergy and lay teachers of the UFMCC and adjunct faculty from other colleges, universities and seminaries who affirm and support the ministry of the UFMCC; adjunct faculty from lesbian/gay communities, religious movements and other faiths who can bring supplemental understandings of God, humanity, theology, and ethics in the world. All College faculty must demonstrate inclusive attitudes with respect and fairness toward all students.

Faculty are given objectives and guidelines for teaching that al-

lows great variety in teaching style, content, and format.

STUDENT CLASSIFICATIONS

Degree Student

Persons who have fulfilled the requirements for admission and have been accepted into the Bachelor of Theology Degree program and are working toward fulfillment of the requirements for graduation shall be designated "Degree Student."

Non-Degree Student

Persons who wish to supplement or continue their education may apply to Samaritan College as a Non-Degree Student. Credits awarded for successful completion of Samaritan coursework may be applied toward the Degree if and when the student meets the admissions requirements for the Degree program.

Auditing Student

Anyone who wishes to attend a Samaritan course, but not receive credit may audit. Auditing students must complete a course registration form and pay tuition and fees. Auditing students do not receive certificates or documentation at the end of the course. Auditing Students are not required to submit written work or take examinations.

International Student

Recognizing that students from outside the United States and Canada who enroll in Samaritan College have distinctly different backgrounds, goals, personal and professional needs, a supplementary set of admissions criteria exists for international Students. These include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. English language proficiency.
2. Level of previous academic work according to the educational standards and requisites of the student's country.

INDEPENDENT AND FIELD STUDY OPTIONS

These curriculum options allow students to work one on one with a faculty member to pursue in greater depth a particular area of study. The faculty member must qualify for the area of study the student wishes to pursue.

An Independent Study is an academic study and is generally used when the student has an interest not covered by a seminar offering.

A Field Study is a project based on learning through tasks in the real world of the subject under study. While some academic study is usually included, the focus is on hands-on work and experiential learning.

The Independent Study Option generally falls under the Elective category of the degree program. The student must complete as many of their required courses as possible in a classroom setting.

The Elective category includes any course designed by the faculty and approved by the Dean of the College.

If only one student wants to pursue a Samaritan College Bachelor's degree at a particular time and place, required courses available in the curriculum presented by the Samaritan/District Partnership can be done as Independent Study except Sexuality Studies. However, the importance of interaction with other students is such that solo study is discouraged.

Independent and Field Studies (always an elective) can be done with any approved Samaritan College faculty. One (1) credit is earned for every 12 hours of project time. A student and a faculty member must complete an Independent Study or a Field Study contract and submit a

SAMARITAN COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

copy to the Dean for approval. Upon approval, a registration form will be sent automatically to the faculty member. Once tuition is paid and the registration form is returned to the Registrar's Office, study officially begins. A copy of the contract is maintained in the student's file.

THE BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAM (Th.B.)

This degree is designed for:

1. Teachers and leaders in local churches.
2. Persons who wish to bring a value dimension to their regular work.

3. Persons who have an intellectual interest in religion.

4. Students seeking an academic foundation toward professional ministry.

5. Persons seeking continuing theological education and training.

Admission

Academic standards for admission for the Th.B. are:

1. Successful completion of a minimum of 60 credit hours (two years) or equivalent of post-secondary education from an accredited College or university.
2. A demonstrated capacity for post-secondary studies as determined by College grades, evaluations and recommendations.

The student's general education at the post-secondary level must include a minimum of one course in each of the following areas of study:

1. Composition or Communications
2. History
3. Science (e.g. Math, Biology, Geology, Astronomy, Ecology)
4. Philosophy
5. Psychology
6. Sociology

Students wishing to be admitted to the Bachelor of Theology Degree program must complete an admissions application with transcripts and admissions fee attached.

Requirements for Graduation

1. Satisfactorily complete at least 60 credit hours. Each credit hour equals 12 course contact hours.
2. Achieve a grade point average of at least 2.0.
3. Receive at least 30 of the necessary credits from the following areas of study through Samaritan College:

Area of Study	Credits
Biblical Studies:	
Homosexuality and the Scripture	1
Theology:	
Elective	3
Ministries of the Church and UFMCC Polity	20
Sexuality Studies	<u>6</u>
TOTAL	30

The remaining 30 credits may be transferred from:

1. Samaritan College Correspondence Courses.
2. Cross-registration with Australian Samaritan Education; Samaritan College in Europe; or Samaritan College in Mexico/Central America upon approval.

3. Accredited seminary, college or university courses that are equivalent to Samaritan College Degree courses.

The Degree must be completed within five years from the date of admission for students admitted in 1992. Students admitted previously must complete the Degree by 1997.

The following courses of study are required for those pursuing professional ministry in the UFMCC. These students may take these courses for credit from Samaritan College, however, if they desire to be admitted to the Degree program they must meet the admissions requirements:

Course of Study	Credit
*Understanding the Bible	3
*History of Christian Thought (Our Story Too)	3
*UFMCC Polity	2
Orientation to MCC Pastoring (OMP)	18
Introduction to Sexuality Studies	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	29

*Available through classroom study and correspondence course.

DEGREE OUTLINE

AREA OF STUDY

COURSE

CREDITS

Biblical Studies

Understanding the Bible
Biblical Exegesis
Homosexuality and the Scripture
Electives

3
1
1
4
9

History of Christian Thought

3
3

Theology

Introduction
Electives

3
3
6

Ethics

Introduction

3
3

Ministries of the Church

Polity
OMP (or CEP effective 1993)

2
18
20

Sexuality Studies

Introduction
Electives

3
3
6

General Electives

13
13

TOTAL CREDITS

60

THE ORIENTATION TO MCC PASTORING (OMP) PROGRAM

The Orientation to MCC Pastoring program is the Practices of Ministry proficiency course required by the Clergy, Credentials and Concerns Committee (CCCC) for the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). It was designed in March, 1983 by the Samaritan Management Team (the governing body, at the time, of Samaritan College); reviewed by the Board of Elders of UFMCC and approved by the CCCC at the UFMCC General Conference XII, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in July, 1983.

The OMP also meets the Ministries of the Church requirement of the Samaritan College Bachelor of Theology Degree program.

The OMP is one of five areas of proficiency required for all candidates applying for licensure as professional clergy in the UFMCC. For more information concerning the proficiency requirements of the CCCC, refer to the UFMCC *Clergy Manual*, authorized and published by the CCCC, 1992 revised edition.

To order a *Clergy Manual* and acquire fee information write to:
UFMCC Church Services
5300 Santa Monica Blvd.,
Suite 304
Los Angeles, California 90029
(213) 464-5100

Purpose

The purpose of the OMP is to supplement the training of professional ministers to pastor Metropolitan Community Churches.

Samaritan College attempts to have as diverse a faculty as possible, representing the people of UFMCC. The underlying assumption of the OMP, is that the best people to train future UFMCC Clergy in the practical areas of pastoring are qualified MCC pastors and lay leaders.

Structure

The OMP is a six-week academic and experiential program, presented in two-week Sections. The entire six-week presentation is currently offered in California. The two-week segments are titled: Section 1, Section 2, and Section 3.

OMP has two divisions: Track I and Track II. Track I is offered during Section 1 and Section 2; Track II is offered during Section 3. Track I is designed to offer the basic academics of pastoring; Track II is designed to offer an academic and experiential professional intensive for experienced pastors and those who have nearly completed their requirements for the professional ministry in UFMCC.

Currently, Section 1 and Section 2 (Track I) are offered at various locations across the USA and Canada at the discretion of Samaritan College during June, July, or August in non-conflicting schedules. The number of program Sections and locations can be increased as the demand for classes increase and Samaritan College qualified staff become available.

Objectives

1. Explore how the various aspects of ministry are applied and or implemented in an ecumenical/inclusive Christian church community.
2. Develop an appreciation for the diversity of the UFMCC and the diversity within the UFMCC leadership, particularly among future clerical colleagues.
3. Encourage the participants (i.e. students, staff and faculty) to develop and/or broaden their personal and professional support systems and their abilities to work cooperatively in ministry with each other.
4. Develop an understanding of the dynamics of oppression, the journeys toward freedom and how these impact the life of the local MCC congregations.

The OMP is an intensive educational experience including class sessions, seminars, and church visitation. Faculty are brought in from all over UFMCC and are required to design their classes to meet the objectives of the program.

Admissions, Matriculation and Requisites

OMP is a combination of post-secondary academic and experiential education. Track II is an upper professional level academic and experiential education. Insofar as OMP is a proficiency requirement of the CCCC, Samaritan College sponsors and supervises the OMP under the authority of the CCCC. Samaritan College certifies and approves instructors and faculty for the program.

To protect student confidentiality and integrity of the educational process, Samaritan College maintains a strict policy of non-interference with student matriculation toward licensure through the CCCC. Therefore, reporting to the Certification Office from Samaritan College only includes normal transcript information. Written authorization to transfer transcript information must be on file with the CCCC.

Students do not have to be enrolled in the Samaritan College Degree program in order to be admitted to the OMP. However, students wishing to pursue the Degree must meet the prerequisite requirements for the Degree as set forth under Samaritan College Degree requirements.

Students who are not pursuing the Bachelor of Theology Degree who enroll in the OMP as initial licensure candidates must meet the prerequisite requirements set forth in the most recently revised edition of the UFMCC *Clergy Manual*.

All Students who are candidates for initial licensure for the professional ministry in UFMCC must attend the OMP program.

Students who are not pursuing the Degree or licensure for the professional ministry in UFMCC, but expect to have a leadership role in an MCC congregation may enroll in Section 1 and Section 2 of the program for Continuing Education Units. A Continuing Education Unit does not fulfill the CCCC Practices of Ministry proficiency requirement.

Students from other denominations or who have no denomination membership who are seeking supplemental training toward ministry may enroll in Section 1 or Section 2 of the program.

Students who have transcripts showing receipt of a Master of Divinity Degree or who are currently enrolled in an educational institution who have transcripts showing:

1. Pastoral Counseling
2. Christian Education
3. Worship, Rites and Sacraments
4. Preaching

... are not required to take Section 1 and Section 2 of the program but must apply for equivalency and provide documentation.

Clergy who are transferring their credentials from other denominations who have pastored for at least five (5) years and who have the appropriate academic and experiential documentation (according to CCCC definitions) may also appeal to waive Section 1 and Section 2 according to the schedule set forth in the UFMCC *Clergy Manual*.

All petitions for waiver must be approved by the CCCC according to the equivalency process in the UFMCC *Clergy Manual*.

Track II

The OMP Track II program began in 1989. Currently, it is designed as a two-week intensive program to accommodate future

UFMCC Pastors who meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Have finished a Master of Divinity Degree from an accredited seminary.
2. Have completed graduate level seminary coursework in the Section 1 and 2 areas of the OMP.
3. Have at least five (5) years of pastoring experience, transferred from another denomination.
4. Have completed or be in the last year of completing the academic/experiential process that is required by CCCC for those pursuing licensure in UFMCC. This includes Track I.

Students who are not licensed by UFMCC who have pastored MCC congregations and desire additional training who do not have academic documentation must acquire this documentation according to requisites set forth in the UFMCC *Clergy Manual* before enrolling in Track II.

Documentation required for Track II enrollment includes:

1. Transcripts and/or proof of graduation on file in the CCCC office.
2. Equivalency waiver on file in the CCCC office.
3. Proof of denominational credentials and five (5) years of pastoring experience or equivalency on file in the CCCC office.
4. Students must be registered with the CCCC office.
5. Samaritan College may require a letter of recommendation from the student's senior pastor, or if acting in a senior pastor capacity, a letter of recommendation from the District Coordinator certifying that the student is in the final year of preparation for licensure or transfer; a countersignature may be requested from their Education Facilitator or Regional Dean when applicable.

Because Track II focuses on professional issues, applicants are expected to have an experiential and academic knowledge

of all other areas related to pastoring. This includes basics of Pastoral Counseling; Christian Education, Church Administration, Worship and Preaching, and general issues of ministry.

The goal of Track II is to facilitate the application of a general pastoral knowledge specifically to an MCC context in a professional setting.

Track II is not suited for those exploring UFMCC as a ministry option, or persons who have not dealt with the professional processes of becoming a pastor. Additionally, the student is expected to have begun the process of dealing with therapeutic issues about their development as individuals prior to undertaking Track II. While Track II deals with some issues of therapy and therapeutic ministry, it is not designed or equipped for group or individual therapy in connection with a student's personal issues.

Program Description

OMP Track I and Track II is an intensive six-week residency training course which earns a student 18 credits for 252 contact hours. (14 contact hours per credit).

Samaritan College certifies completion of the OMP as an indivisible 18 credit unit on student transcripts upon student request.

Students must complete the registration form which is attached to the annually published OMP Brochure and submit it with tuition and fees according to the published deadline date. Information and materials will be mailed to the student after the registration form, tuition and fees are received in the Administration Office. Included in these materials are:

1. Site Information
2. Travel Information
3. Textbook Listings
4. *Medical Form

- 5.*Transcript Release Authorization
6. Class Schedule or Syllabus

* These forms must be completed, signed and returned before registration is complete.

Fee Schedule

Registration Fee: \$50.00 non-refundable fee which covers the cost of advance materials and mailings.

Tuition: \$510.00 per two-week Section.

Housing fees and meals vary according to the location and program presentation. These fees are published annually with the program brochure. All students are required to reside at the program site.

Textbooks: Required materials must be purchased prior to the program. Listings are published annually in advance of the program.

All tuition and fees must be paid prior to commencement of the program in accordance with the schedule indicated in the program brochure.

Financial Assistance

Currently, Samaritan College cannot provide financial assistance. However, most UFMCC Districts in The USA and Canada have scholarship funds if there is financial need. The student is encouraged to apply for funding from their District or local Church.

Students of color may petition the Fund For Overcoming Racism for financial assistance. Contact: George Padilla, Chair; 316 W. Ellis Ave.; Inglewood, CA 90302

Samaritan College recommends that all students take the Proficiency course, *Introduction to Sexuality Studies*, prior to enrollment in their OMP. Therefore this Proficiency can be offered prior to Section 1 at the

OMP site as a convenience for the student. Tuition for the course is \$255.00 plus a \$25.00 registration fee for Students not attending the OMP. Presentation of the class is contingent upon a five (5) student minimum enrollment. Any student can enroll, whether they will participate in the OMP or not.

Track I Curriculum

SECTION 1

Pastoral Counseling
Christian Education
Church Administration

OPTION

Introduction to Sexuality
Studies Proficiency

SECTION 2

Preaching
Worship, Rites and
Sacraments

Track II Curriculum

SECTION 3

Sexuality Counseling
and Professional
Ethics
Church Administration/
Church Growth
Dynamics of
Oppression/
Missiology
Ecumenical/Interfaith
Approach to Pastoral
Identity
Self-Care: Maintaining
Self-Esteem

Counseling Services

Wherever the Orientation program is offered, students will be notified of the availability of existing community organizations that offer support for various therapeutic and physical needs (A.A., ACOL, substance abuse, hospitals, etc.). Each student is advised to contact their therapist or other support systems during the program as needed. Each segment will have on call, qualified clergy or lay leadership for individual counseling as needed.

Special Seminars

Special seminars are offered in the belief that these are important adjuncts to the basic curriculum during the year that they are offered. Seminars are subject to revision and change according to the availability of qualified faculty to present the material.

1. Prison Ministry
2. Accessibility Issues in the Local Church
3. Substance Abuse
4. A day with the Founder of UFMCC
5. Grief in the Age of AIDS
6. African-American Traditions of Worship & Preaching
7. AIDS in the Minority Community
8. Homelessness
9. District Government within UFMCC
10. Church Planting/Missiology
11. Ministry to the Leather Community
12. Visit to the Simon Wiesenthal Museum (Holocaust Relics and History)
13. Ecumenism in Worship
14. Memorial Services
15. UFMCC Church Services
16. Varieties of Cross-Cultural Music

TRACK I

1. Basic Principles of Grief Management
2. Lay Ministry

TRACK II

1. Dynamics of Catastrophic Illness on the Life of the Church
2. An Evening with the Founder of UFMCC
3. Family Dynamics in the Church
4. Church Planting

Evaluations

Student: (Exit Interview)

The Dean or a designated OMP faculty meets with each student during the student's final week in the program. This exit interview: evaluates the student's

progress through the program; discusses the student's remaining academic or experiential requirements, if any; explores the student's personal goals and objectives concerning professional ministry. The College Registrar advises the student and interviewing faculty if the student has successfully completed the program to that point.

At the conclusion of the interview an exit interview report is signed by both student and interviewer, and copies are distributed to the student, the student's supervisor, and the student's Samaritan College file. If the student does not have a supervisor at the time of the exit interview, the evaluation is forwarded to the student's District Coordinator.

Faculty:

Each student receives an evaluation form for review of the faculty and course. The evaluations become one of many components of faculty and class review and assists in the development of future program objectives by the Dean.

Program:

Students, faculty and staff have the opportunity to evaluate the program on the final day of Orientation, and offer suggestions to improve future Orientation programs.

The program is evaluated again at General Conference by students who are approximately one year into their ministries, and again by students into their second year of ministry using the goals and objectives as a guide.

Grading

Because of the experiential nature of the Orientation program, letter grades are not given. The student is evaluated as noted above and given credit for completion of the program. CCCC is advised only of the completion of or failure to complete the program. The student must at-

tend and participate in all classes of the program in order to receive credit. If a student is unable to attend or participate in a class or part of a class, for any reason, the student may be required to do a written assignment to make up the time missed or repeat the class in the subsequent program year at the discretion of the faculty and/or Dean.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Correspondence courses are an educational attempt to reach out to the whole Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and other interested persons with quality instruction by mail for clergy, student clergy, and laity. Anyone may enroll in a Samaritan correspondence course by filling out an enrollment form and paying the course fee.

Credits

Samaritan credits are college-level units granted by Samaritan College and are given for completion of correspondence courses. Persons preparing for UFMCC clergy status may use these credits toward meeting their required academic units. Samaritan College students may also use these credits toward graduation from their degree program. It is not possible to earn a Samaritan degree (Bachelor of Theology or Th.B.) through correspondence courses alone. Whereas correspondence courses are fine for supplemental education, they cannot comprise the whole of one's training for professional or lay ministry.

UFMCC Proficiency Requirements

UFMCC Proficiency requirements in Bible, History of Christian Thought, and Polity may be met by correspondence courses. Persons preparing for UFMCC clergy credentials may complete the course, *Understanding The Bible* to meet the

Bible requirement; the course, *Our Story Too*, to meet the History requirement; and the course, *UFMCC Polity*, to meet the Polity requirement.

It is not possible to meet the proficiency requirements in Practices of Ministry and Sexuality Studies by correspondence courses. In order to use a correspondence course to meet a proficiency requirement, a student must enroll in the course for credit and successfully complete the course no later than January 1 of the year in which one applies for licensing or transfer (and within a period of five (5) years prior to this application date.)

Persons who do not want to enroll in the courses for credit but would like a copy of course materials to use in preparation for a proficiency exam may order the course materials only.

Course Schedule

A course schedule for Samaritan correspondence courses is not set. Students may proceed at their own pace through a course as long as they complete it within one year. An extension of one additional year is available for a \$10.00 (USA) administrative fee. It is recommended that at least one lesson be undertaken each week in order to maintain continuity and momentum in the course.

Course Orders

Course orders accompanied by a personal check will be sent when that check has cleared. To expedite an order, a cashier's check or money order should be sent. When a course is sent to a student, he/she will receive the entire course in a binder. In Proficiency courses which have periodic closed-book testing, these tests are ordinarily not mailed with the original course packet, but as the student becomes ready for them during the course.

Fees

The fee for Samaritan correspondence courses varies according to credit hours. A one (1) credit course at \$85.00, a two (2) credit course at \$170.00, and a three (3) credit course at \$255.00. Included in this tuition charge are a study guide/course binder, grading of lessons and tests, and awarding of credit upon successful completion of the course. Textbooks are not included in the cost of the course; they must be ordered separately.

If a student wishes to purchase the materials only of a correspondence course (without having their tests graded or receiving any credit), they may do so. The charge varies according to the size of the course and whether reading materials are included. Textbooks are an additional charge.

All courses must be prepaid in full and in USA funds. Check or money orders should be made payable to Samaritan Correspondence Courses.

Residents of countries other than the USA may pay the USA dollar equivalent in local funds.

Refunds and Transfers

Refunds on correspondence courses are available if the student has not yet started the course and returns all course materials within one month of the date materials are mailed to the student. A full refund (minus a minimum of \$10.00 for shipping and handling charges) will be issued.

If a student wishes to transfer from a correspondence course to the corresponding class, Samaritan College will apply the tuition to the course, provided the student has not yet begun the correspondence course. If any lessons have been graded the student may not transfer.

If the student transfers to a class the student is required to pay the registration fee for the class.

Proficiency Area Courses

Three of the five UFMCC proficiency areas may be met by taking correspondence courses, namely Bible, History of Christian Thought, and UFMCC Polity. Persons preparing to be UFMCC clergy are encouraged to obtain thorough training in each of the five proficiency areas; the proficiency courses alone can only provide a foundational knowledge. Students taking proficiency courses are expected to be able to write essays clearly and correctly. If a student demonstrates a lack of writing ability, he/she may be asked to enroll in college level courses in composition and grammar.

Proficiency Examinations

For three areas of required proficiency in preparing for UFMCC credentials there are three ways of meeting the proficiency. Those areas of proficiency are: History of Christian Thought; Understanding the Bible; UFMCC Polity.

Student's may meet the proficiency requirements by taking

the appropriate course through Samaritan College.

These proficiency requirements may be met by having an equivalency of these courses approved by Samaritan College.

Proficiency requirements may be met by passing the proficiency examinations in these areas.

The proficiency examination and the reading materials for the correspondence courses may be ordered in these subjects. When you are ready to take the exam, secure an application from the college. That form requires that you select a date and location for the exam and a UFMCC clergyperson as a proctor who must also sign the application form.

The exams fees are:

1 exam	\$15.00
2 exams	\$25.00
3 exams	\$35.00

When the completed application form and check are received, the examination will be mailed to the proctor to administer. The examination proctor will grade the examination when completed and then forward it to the college for notation in the student's records; the College will notify CCCC that the student has passed the examination (70% grade require for passing).

In case of failure, the examination may be taken again after 90 days by filling out another application form and paying the appropriate fees.



From Scripture to Sermon: Biblical Exegesis and Interpretation (1 credit) \$85.00 plus \$5.00 material fee. Workbook and cassette tape included.

This course explores the Biblical exegesis of and interpretation necessary to the preparation of a sermon. Students will learn to define basic exegetical and hermeneutical terms; to select Scriptural passages for preaching; to perform various kinds of exegesis and interpretation; and to use the exegetical and hermeneutical resources available to them. The textbook is a workbook written specifically for this course by Dr. Jeffrey Pulling.

A major part of the course consists of the student doing exegesis exercises and interpretation of passages and the preparation of sermon outline based on this background work.

This course is designed for students who are preparing for their future preaching role and for the exegesis/interpretation exercise required for the initial clergy credentialing process. Pastors and others who want to improve their sermon preparation skills would also benefit from this course.

UFMCC Polity (2 credits), \$170.00, reading materials included.

Polity is an in-depth study of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. It presents an understanding of the history and development of the UFMCC, a working knowledge of the current programs, leaders, Bylaws, government, and structure of the UFMCC. UFMCC history is explored through General Conferences, development of Bylaws, leaders, and programs. The readings include the *UFMCC Bylaws*, and several articles and essays written by persons in the Fellowship. This course would be helpful for those who teach premembership classes, serve on a local church Board of Directors, or represent a congregation as a delegate at conferences.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Homosexuality and the Scriptures (1 credit) \$85.00 plus \$5.00 material fee. Reading materials included.

This course examines homosexuality in the context of the culture, language, and worship of biblical times. Same-gender orientation is also viewed in the context of sexuality in general in the Bible. The various verses and passages used to condemn same-gender relations are explored. The readings used in this course are authored by Robert Arthur, Michael England, and Dr. Jeffrey Pulling. Students will write an essay on the question, "How can someone be a Christian and homosexual?" (one of the required essays for the clergy credentialing process in UFMCC).



Our Story Too (3 credits), \$255.00, Textbooks and tapes \$28.00

While Christianity evolved historically into patriarchal institutions and belief systems, there has always been great variety within Christianity and wide participation by marginalized people. This course explores the historical development of Christianity using the book *Christianity: A Way of Salvation* by Sandra Sizer Frankel; the role of women, African-Americans, and gay and lesbian people in Christianity's growth and development. Readings and audiotapes include Barbara MacHaffie's book *Her Story: Women in Christian Tradition*, John Boswell's tape *Homosexuality, Religious Life and the Clergy: An Historical Overview*; Jeremiah Wright's tape *Spirituality and Justice*, and articles by various authors.

Clarifying and Renewing the Ministry (1 credit) \$85.00, Textbook \$8.00

This course explores the ministry of clergy and the ministry of laity in the context of the whole ministry of the church. The textbook is *The People of God in Ministry* by William McElvaney. The first half of the course deals with professional or pastoral ministry and covers such areas as the burdens and blessings of the clergy occupation, preparation and formation for ministry, spiritual discipline and renewal, measurements and evaluation, and the madness/foolishness of Christian ministry. The second half of the course explores the ministry of all Christians as a listening church, a learning church, a loving church, and a liberating church.

This course is designed for clergy and student clergy to assist them in clarifying what their ministry is and how they can enable the lay members of their church to do ministry. The course is also helpful for lay leaders who want a better understanding of the ministry of the church and what clergy and lay roles are.

Understanding The Bible (3 credits), \$255.00, Textbook \$22.00

This course is a comprehensive survey of the Scriptures. The textbook is the *Abingdon Bible Handbook* by Edward Blair. The focus of this course is an understanding of different approaches to Biblical interpretation; a working knowledge of Bible content; and the content and authorship of every book in the Bible, major characters, and key passages. Additional concerns explored are various Biblical translations; the manuscripts on which the Bible is based; Biblical chronology; Hebrew/Jewish calendar; and the intertestamental period.

Before undertaking this course, students should know the general outline and chronology of the whole Biblical Story and who the primary characters are.

INTERNATIONAL SAMARITAN EDUCATION

Australian Samaritan Education (ASE)

Australian Samaritan Education (ASE) is an autonomous Samaritan College facility with distance education facilities and offers a Bachelor of Ministries degree and Certificate in Pastoral Leadership. In 1992, ASE will be developing courses toward a Graduate Diploma in Theology.

Occasionally, students in the USA, Canada, Mexico (English-speaking) and Europe may enroll in ASE courses if they are already admitted to a program in their own country. These are qualified on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the Samaritan College Dean or Principal and President of Samaritan College and the Dean of ASE.

For details on courses and qualification of ASE contact:

Rev. Cliff Connors
Dean, Australian Samaritan
Education
15 Honor Street
Ermington, NSW 2115
Australia

Samaritan College in Europe

Samaritan College in Europe (SCE) is an extension programme of Samaritan College and consists of a Board of Governors and a Board of Studies which develops and sets its coursework. For more information contact:

Samaritan College in Europe:
Rev. Ian Westby
Chair, Board of Governors

c/o 11 Newlands Ave.
Shirley South Hampton
SO15EP England

Samaritan College in Mexico/Central America

Currently, Samaritan College in Mexico/Central America is an extension program of Samaritan College. Periodically, courses are offered in Spanish to meet the needs of Spanish-speaking students in Mexico. Students may contact the Dean directly or the Samaritan College Administration Office for further details:

Rev. Tomas Garcia
Dean, Samaritan College in
Mexico/Central America
APDO Postal 1-4045
Guadalajara, Jalisco
Mexico

SAMARITAN COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

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1992 ORIENTATION TO MCC PASTORING (OMP) FACULTY

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Dynamics of Oppression

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South Central District
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Concerns Committee, UFMCC
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A. STEPHEN PIETERS
Grief Management

B.S. Northwestern University
M.Div. McCormick Theological Seminary
D.Min. (Hon.) Samaritan College
Editor, "Alert" magazine, UFMCC publication
Member, Board of Governors, AIDS Project,
Los Angeles
Board, AIDS National Interfaith Network
Field Director, UFMCC AIDS Ministry
Ordained Minister, UFMCC

SHEILA RAWLS
Self-Care: Maintaining Self Esteem

Co-Pastor, MCC East County, California
Ordained Minister, UFMCC

SUE REID
Dynamics of Oppression (WPHR)

B.A. Gustavus Adolphus University
Chair, Committee on White People Healing Racism,
Department of People of Color, UFMCC
Layperson, UFMCC

LAWRENCE "LARRY" RODRIQUEZ, JR.
Lay Ministry

B.A., M.S. University of California, Los Angeles
Clerk, Board of Elders, UFMCC
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NANCY M. SMIEGOWSKI
Pastoral Counseling

B.A. Loyola University
M.S.W. University of Illinois
M.Div. Chicago Theological Seminary
Co-Pastor New Hope MCC, Wisconsin
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FREDA M. SMITH

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B.A. (cum laude), M.A. California State University

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D.Min. (Hon.) Samaritan College

Listed: Who's Who in American Colleges and

Universities; Who's Who in Religion

Faculty (Psychology) California State University

"Techniques of Sexual Counseling",

"Advanced Psychopathology"

Licensed by the State California Board of Behavioral

Sciences, Marriage, Family, Child Counselor

Vice Moderator, Board of Elders, UFMCC

Senior Pastor, River City MCC, Sacramento

Ordained Minister, UFMCC

CONNIE D. STAFF

Worship, Rites and Sacraments

B.S. Illinois State University

M.A. University of California, Berkeley

M.Div. Pacific School of Religion

Chair, Women's Secretariat, UFMCC

Licensed Minister, UFMCC

PAUL TUCKER

Pastoral Counseling

B.A. (cum laude) Birmingham Southern College

M.Div. Candler School of Theology

Associate Pastor, MCC Dallas, Texas

Ordained Minister, UFMCC

RAVI VERMA

Church Administration

B.S. University of Bombay, India

M.S. Lehigh University

M.B.A. University of Pittsburgh

Layperson, UFMCC

CAROL A. WEST

Dynamics of Catastrophic Illness on the
Life of the Church

B.A. University of North Texas

M.L.A. Texas Christian University

Associate Pastor; AIDS Chaplain MCC Dallas

Licensed Minister, UFMCC

FRANKYE A. WHITE

Church Administration

B.S. Religious Studies

M.A. St. Thomas University

Senior Pastor St. Luke's MCC, Florida

Ordained Minister, UFMCC

NANCY L. WILSON

Pastoral Counseling

B.A. Allegheny College

M.Div. Sis. Cyril & Methodius Seminary

Rockerfeller Fellow

D.Min. (Hon.) Samaritan College

Member, Board of Elders, UFMCC

Senior Pastor MCC of Los Angeles

Ordained Minister, UFMCC



SAMARITAN

Education for Liberation
5300 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 306
Los Angeles, California 90029-1196
213. 464. 5100



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QUEZON CITY, PHILIPPINES

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Los Angeles, California 90029-1196
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Samaritan College is the professional school of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), an international Christian denomination with a special outreach to the lesbian and gay community.

UFMCC was called into existence to proclaim and live out God's unconditional love for all of creation. Samaritan College is proud to serve a crucial function in the on-going ministry of the UFMCC by providing creative avenues of education and resources to equip people of faith.

This student handbook is designed to provide the basic information needed by Samaritan College students. It seeks to bring together, in one convenient form, a wide range of policies and procedures.

This overview allows creative possibilities for the expansion of the UFMCC educational process. Supplemental course and site lists will be issued from time to time to keep you apprised of the on-going work.

Important changes in policy or procedure will be distributed in a form which can be added to this handbook. Samaritan College reserves the right to make amendments or changes in individual cases with or without prior notice.

It is my hope that you will find this presentation helpful and supportive of your ministry and vision. I celebrate with you the rich spiritual diversity of UFMCC in the world and I solicit your prayers and support for Samaritan College as we continue to face the challenges of providing quality education.

Sandra L. Robinson
President



SAMANTHAN

1000 North ...
...
...

Samant College is the professional school of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC), an international Christian denomination with a special outreach to the lesbian and gay community.

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Sandra L. Robinson
President

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Samaritan College is the professional school of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Church (UFMCC). The UFMCC is an international Christian denomination founded in 1968 by the Reverend Elder Troy D. Perry to respond to the need for a non-homophobic place of worship for lesbians and gays.

Samaritan College's task is to generate study and reflection about the uniquely prophetic mission of the UFMCC in proclaiming an inclusive Christianity while developing theology of sexuality and liberation. It is a testament to the longings and courage of an international lesbian and gay community that no longer accepts invisibility and invalidation.

Students with vocational clarity and spiritual commitment will find encouragement and assistance in broadening and deepening their faith and vocation.

Samaritan holds that the New Testament concept of ministry places emphasis on "calling" and "function" rather than "position" and "status". This is consistent with the understanding of ministry in the UFMCC.

Samaritan College recognizes its responsibility to offer training for the special needs of the UFMCC's ministries as well as for the broader aspects of Christian ministry. For this reason, in addition to traditional courses that most seminaries

offer, Samaritan provides courses and seminars that cover human sexuality in the Scriptures, in Christian tradition, and in the practice of ministry. Also presented are an inclusive understanding of God and humanity, the developing theology and ethics of UFMCC, and UFMCC polity and programs.

In the process of Samaritan's journey, we seek to shape, and be shaped by women and men who are committed to the Gospel as explicated in the scriptures; to the task of theological education; to the ministry of the church; and to the realization of God's righteousness, justice and grace for all people.

SAMARITAN COLLEGE POLICIES

STATUS

Samaritan College's current status is as a "religious exempt" institution under the California Education Code Section 94303(b).

The College complies with all state and federal antidiscrimination laws and regulations in the administration of its admissions and educational policies.

INCLUSIVENESS

Inclusiveness is an attitude or stance of mutuality and openness toward others that recognizes everyone's right of equal access to the experience and realization of wholeness, and it is a commitment to remove bar-

riers between individuals and among communities that deny such access.

Inclusive language reflects a sensitivity to overcoming barriers that exist between individuals and among communities in such areas as: gender, race, class, age, physical differences, nationality, theological beliefs, culture, and lifestyle.

(Report of the Elders Task Force on Inclusive Language to the 1981 General Conference, Section 1.)

Language reflects, reinforces, and creates reality. Therefore, Samaritan College, in keeping with the Inclusive Language guidelines adopted by the UFMCC at General Conference 1981, is committed to the use of inclusive language in our com-

mon discourse. Samaritan College adopts the guidelines of the General Conference mandate on inclusivity as its policy for all written work and as a goal for all verbal discussion.

Samaritan College is open to all persons whose backgrounds and abilities qualify them for post-secondary professional education. Neither admission to studies nor qualification for graduation is discriminatory with respect to age, sex, race, sexual-affective preference, or physical disabilities. This policy is interpreted to include nondiscrimination in admissions and graduation on the basis of any catastrophic illness including AIDS, ARC or HIV antibody status.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Within Samaritan College's administrative structure which serves students from the time of inquiry to the time of their withdrawal or graduation, records are maintained with integrity and discretion. These records may not be released to third parties without written permission of the student except those necessary to pursue collection of past due bills or loans.

Because Samaritan College recognizes that persons with AIDS, ARC, or positive HIV antibody status often experience discrimination, such knowledge will be held in strict confidence. Such information from student or employment files will be disclosed to third parties only with the individual's written permis-

sion. In small group processes, such information regarding a person's health status shall be shared with others only by the affected individual and shall not be revealed by anyone else.

CONSENSUAL RELATIONSHIPS

Consenting romantic and sexual relationships between faculty and student, or between supervisor and employee, are considered extremely unwise. Codes of ethics for most professional associations forbid professional-client sexual relationships. Samaritan College views the instructor-student relationship as one of professional-client. The respect and trust accorded an instructor by a student, as well as the power exercised by the instructor in giving praise or correction, grades,

recommendations for further study, etc., greatly diminish the student's freedom should sexual favors be included among the instructor's demands.

Faculty and students are cautioned against the costs of even consenting relationships, in regard to the academic efforts of both faculty member and student. A faculty member who enters into a sexual relationship with a student must recognize that professional power differential exists; if a charge of sexual harassment is subsequently lodged, it will be extremely difficult to assert innocence on grounds of mutual consent.

This policy applies to Samaritan College, the conduct of students, faculty, support staff, administrative staff, and the Board of Trustees.

SAMARITAN DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

DEFINITION

"Partnership" is the method Samaritan College has chosen to provide stimulating and quality instruction for the ministries of the UFMCC in as many places as possible. Therefore, the Samaritan College "Campus" exists wherever Samaritan College classes, seminars or workshops are taught.

The UFMCC District structure provides convenient geographic segments for demographic tracking and manageable administration of the business of the College.

The Partnership is an administrative cooperation which provides:

1. A scholarship fund within the District for educational opportunities for students seeking licensure in UFMCC or for students pursuing a Bachelor of Theology Degree from Samaritan College.
2. An annual student clergy weekend for those interested in pursuing credentialed ministry in UFMCC; persons who are "in-care"; student clergy registered with the CCCC; clergy interested in transferring their credentials from other denominations to UFMCC; persons who intend to pastor a UFMCC congregation.
3. Facilities and Samaritan-approved faculty for course presentation.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Partnership is to provide a place and Samaritan-approved faculty for training and education according to the needs and culture of the District and UFMCC.

Whenever and wherever possible, Samaritan College will enter into cooperative agreements with other educational institutions and seminaries that offer non-homophobic educational opportunities.

OBJECTIVES

The Partnership creates:

1. A forum for greater collegiality between students.

2. A District scholarship fund.
3. College programs offered on a regular basis in every District.
4. Development of faculty resources in every District.
5. Accessible academic and experiential training in non-homophobic environments.
6. Minimum expenses for college-level courses.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Samaritan College's academic school year is presented 4-4-4, in three term trimesters:

1st Term	January-April
2nd Term	May-August
3rd Term	Sept.-December

The Samaritan/District Partnership provides creative avenues to complete coursework. According to the availability of qualified faculty and student schedules, classes may be presented within the four month term:

1. Weekly
2. During consecutive weekends.
3. Intensively before, during, or after District Conferences.

Exceptional calendar dates include no classes during:

Holy Week
Thanksgiving Week
Christmas Week
New Year's Day

No regular classes will take place at locations other than General Conference during General Conference. Special classes will be presented at General Conferences.

Samaritan College courses may be taught as seminars when the faculty member agrees to meet the required objectives for the course.

Courses taught in the Orientation to MCC Pastoring (OMP) program are not available by seminar and can only be recognized for credit when taken in the OMP program.

ACADEMIC STUDY POLICIES

Students are expected to attend all scheduled class meetings, participate in class discussions and activities and complete assigned work in a timely manner. Attendance and participation are essential to obtaining the full academic benefit from the course.

Students who miss 25% or more of any course may be dropped with a failing grade unless arrangements have been made with the instructor.

Any Degree student whose grade point average drops below 2.0 will be placed on academic probation. Degree students on probation must raise their average to the 2.0 minimum within two trimesters. Students who fail to do so will be dismissed from the Degree program.

Any student wishing to appeal a grade or file a grievance must do so within one trimester of the last scheduled class meeting. Such a request must be submitted in writing to the Dean with a copy to the instructor.

The Dean or administrative designee has 30 days to respond

to the request. If needed, a meeting may be scheduled between the student, instructor and the Dean or his/her representative. The decision of the Dean is final and must be submitted in writing to the student within 30 days of the decision.

INCOMPLETE COURSES AND EXTENSIONS

The work of a course is terminated on the last day of the term. The performance in the course is evaluated on the basis of the work submitted by that time, unless an exception is made by the instructor. Extensions can only be granted by the instructor. If the work is not completed by the end of the term, or in special circumstances, by the end of an instructor-approved extension, a "No credit" will be given.

MAILING IN COURSEWORK

It is not wise for a student to depend upon the postal service when meeting deadlines. Only if materials are sent by registered or certified mail can one show a receipt indicating proof of a mailing time when the materials

have been delivered late or lost. Students are advised to always retain their notes and copies of their papers.

INTEGRITY OF WRITTEN MATERIALS

Writing papers, preparing sermons and written presentations and conducting scholarly research are an important part of the student's education.

Students are expected to consult many sources of information e.g. books, journals, newspapers and magazines, as well as audio/video materials. Whenever students quote from or paraphrase another source, they must give an appropriate citation. The quote or paraphrased matter must be properly identified according to a standard form such as Kate Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers and Dissertations or W. G. Campbell's Form and Style in Thesis Writing.

ADVISORS

It is suggested that Students seek counsel, about their Degree Program, from the Educa-

tion Facilitator in the student's District, the nearest Regional Dean (when applicable), or a member of the faculty.

EVALUATIONS

Instructors complete an evaluation form with one copy given to the student and one copy filed in the Registrar's Office (Administration Office in Los Angeles).

Each student is expected to complete an evaluation form on the course and instructor. A copy is given to the instructor and another is filed in the Administration Office.

GRADING SYSTEM AND CREDITS

The instructor notifies the student of the grade and returns papers and or other materials to the student. Grades are recorded into the student file by the Registrar.

Credits (post-secondary level trimester units) are given for the successful completion of Samaritan courses. One credit is earned for every twelve hours of class time and/or project time in the case of Independent or Field Study. Letter grades will ordinarily be given, but in some cases, pass/fail grades will be used.

Candidates for the UFMCC professional ministry may use Samaritan College credits toward their academic proficiency requirements. However, if the student intends to request admittance to the Bachelor of Theology Degree program, they must fulfill the program requirements for admission.

GRADE	SIGNIFICANCE	POINTS
A	Exceptional (90-100%)	4
B	Above Average (80-89%)	3
C	Average (70-79%)	2
F	Failure (Below 70%)	0

GRADE	SIGNIFICANCE
P	Pass
W	Withdraw
I	Incomplete
NC	No Credit

GRADUATION WITH HONORS

After computation of a student's grade point average, the following distinctions at graduation may be awarded in conjunction with the Bachelor of Theology Degree:

3.50-3.75	cum laude
3.75-3.95	magna cum laude
3.95-4.00	summa cum laude

TUITION AND FEES

All tuition is payable in full at the beginning of the class or in accordance with a payment plan set up by UFMCC Districts which have a contractual Samaritan/District Partnership program in effect. Tuition is payable only to Samaritan College except as specified in Partnership policies. In such cases, checks should be made payable to the sponsoring District. There is a \$10.00 charge for checks which are returned "insufficient funds."

Credit	Class Hours	Tuition	Auditing Fee
1	12	\$ 85.00	\$ 50.00
2	24	\$170.00	\$100.00
3	36	\$255.00	\$150.00

Admission Fee

Students requesting admission to the Degree program are required to submit a \$100.00 fee with their application. This is a one-time fee; \$50.00 of which is applied to the student tuition.

Registration Fee

To register for a course, each student is required to pay \$25.00 each for one or two courses, or \$50.00 for three or more courses taken in the same term. This fee covers the cost of presenting the course, (e.g. use of facility, materials and transportation costs to the faculty.)

Registration fees shall not exceed \$50.00 per student per term. Where applicable, the registration fee is paid to the Samaritan District Partnership along with tuition. Otherwise, the fee is payable to Samaritan College.

Where applicable, the Samaritan District Partnership will notify the Registrar's Office of any student who has not paid the fees or signed a payment plan. Registration is not complete until payment or payment arrangements have been made.

Students who have not made arrangements to pay outstanding bills may not register for courses in subsequent terms (including the Orientation to MCC Pastoring (OMP) program or Correspondence Courses until such arrangements are made. Tuition and fees must be paid before official transcripts and diplomas can be issued.

Transcript Fee

A \$10.00 fee is charged per student request for transcripts. This fee does not apply to Orientation to MCC Pastoring (OMP) transcripts sent to the Clergy, Credentials and Concerns Committee. A request may include transcript issuance to several schools. The fee is charged on a "per occurrence/request" basis, not necessarily per transcript. Transcript requests must be submitted in writing. No other form of request can be honored.

Graduation Fee

A \$50.00 graduation fee is charged to help defray graduation expenses. This is a one-time-only fee.

SCHEDULE FOR RETURNABLE FEES AND CANCELLATIONS

If a student must withdraw from or cancel his/her atten-

dance for any reason, after the full tuition and fees have been paid, the following schedule will apply:

1/2 - 1 credit course

Full tuition refund less a \$10.00 record keeping fee before class begins; no refund after classes begin.

2 credit course

Full tuition refund less a \$10.00 record keeping fee before classes begin; 50% tuition refund before the second class session.

3 credit course

Full tuition refund less a \$10.00 record keeping fee before the third class session; 50% tuition refund before the fourth class session.

OMP Students: consult the annually published OMP brochure for refund policies. Students who must withdraw from the OMP program after commencement must notify College officials immediately. Generally refunds cannot be granted once the program has begun.

FACULTY

Faculty members for Samaritan College are approved by the Dean and President of the College. Faculty are deemed qualified to teach a given subject on the basis of their academic training, personal study, and/or practical experience.

The College faculty include clergy and lay teachers of the UFMCC and adjunct faculty from other colleges, universities and seminaries who affirm and support the ministry of the UFMCC; adjunct faculty from lesbian/gay communities, religious movements and other faiths who can bring supplemental understandings of God, humanity, theology, and ethics in the world. All College faculty must demonstrate inclusive attitudes with respect and fairness toward all students.

Faculty are given objectives and guidelines for teaching that al-

lows great variety in teaching style, content, and format.

STUDENT CLASSIFICATIONS

Degree Student

Persons who have fulfilled the requirements for admission and have been accepted into the Bachelor of Theology Degree program and are working toward fulfillment of the requirements for graduation shall be designated "Degree Student."

Non-Degree Student

Persons who wish to supplement or continue their education may apply to Samaritan College as a Non-Degree Student. Credits awarded for successful completion of Samaritan coursework may be applied toward the Degree if and when the student meets the admissions requirements for the Degree program.

Auditing Student

Anyone who wishes to attend a Samaritan course, but not receive credit may audit. Auditing students must complete a course registration form and pay tuition and fees. Auditing students do not receive certificates or documentation at the end of the course. Auditing Students are not required to submit written work or take examinations.

International Student

Recognizing that students from outside the United States and Canada who enroll in Samaritan College have distinctly different backgrounds, goals, personal and professional needs, a supplementary set of admissions criteria exists for international Students. These include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. English language proficiency.
2. Level of previous academic work according to the educational standards and requisites of the student's country.

INDEPENDENT AND FIELD STUDY OPTIONS

These curriculum options allow students to work one on one with a faculty member to pursue in greater depth a particular area of study. The faculty member must qualify for the area of study the student wishes to pursue.

An Independent Study is an academic study and is generally used when the student has an interest not covered by a seminar offering.

A Field Study is a project based on learning through tasks in the real world of the subject under study. While some academic study is usually included, the focus is on hands-on work and experiential learning.

The Independent Study Option generally falls under the Elective category of the degree program. The student must complete as many of their required courses as possible in a classroom setting.

The Elective category includes any course designed by the faculty and approved by the Dean of the College.

If only one student wants to pursue a Samaritan College Bachelor's degree at a particular time and place, required courses available in the curriculum presented by the Samaritan/District Partnership can be done as Independent Study except Sexuality Studies. However, the importance of interaction with other students is such that solo study is discouraged.

Independent and Field Studies (always an elective) can be done with any approved Samaritan College faculty. One (1) credit is earned for every 12 hours of project time. A student and a faculty member must complete an Independent Study or a Field Study contract and submit a

SAMARITAN COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

copy to the Dean for approval. Upon approval, a registration form will be sent automatically to the faculty member. Once tuition is paid and the registration form is returned to the Registrar's Office, study officially begins. A copy of the contract is maintained in the student's file.

THE BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY DEGREE PROGRAM (Th.B.)

This degree is designed for:

1. Teachers and leaders in local churches.
2. Persons who wish to bring a value dimension to their regular work.

3. Persons who have an intellectual interest in religion.

4. Students seeking an academic foundation toward professional ministry.

5. Persons seeking continuing theological education and training.

Admission

Academic standards for admission for the Th.B. are:

1. Successful completion of a minimum of 60 credit hours (two years) or equivalent of post-secondary education from an accredited College or university.
2. A demonstrated capacity for post-secondary studies as determined by College grades, evaluations and recommendations.

The student's general education at the post-secondary level must include a minimum of one course in each of the following areas of study:

1. Composition or Communications
2. History
3. Science (e.g. Math, Biology, Geology, Astronomy, Ecology)
4. Philosophy
5. Psychology
6. Sociology

Students wishing to be admitted to the Bachelor of Theology Degree program must complete an admissions application with transcripts and admissions fee attached.

Requirements for Graduation

1. Satisfactorily complete at least 60 credit hours. Each credit hour equals 12 course contact hours.
2. Achieve a grade point average of at least 2.0.
3. Receive at least 30 of the necessary credits from the following areas of study through Samaritan College:

Area of Study	Credits
Biblical Studies:	
Homosexuality and the Scripture	* 1
Theology:	
Elective	3
Ministries of the Church and UFMCC Polity	20
Sexuality Studies	<u>6</u>
TOTAL	30

The remaining 30 credits may be transferred from:

1. Samaritan College Correspondence Courses.
2. Cross-registration with Australian Samaritan Education; Samaritan College in Europe; or Samaritan College in Mexico/Central America upon approval.

3. Accredited seminary, college or university courses that are equivalent to Samaritan College Degree courses.

The Degree must be completed within five years from the date of admission for students admitted in 1992. Students admitted previously must complete the Degree by 1997.

The following courses of study are required for those pursuing professional ministry in the UFMCC. These students may take these courses for credit from Samaritan College, however, if they desire to be admitted to the Degree program they must meet the admissions requirements:

Course of Study	Credit
*Understanding the Bible	3
*History of Christian Thought (Our Story Too)	3
*UFMCC Polity	2
Orientation to MCC Pastoring (OMP)	18
Introduction to Sexuality Studies	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	29

*Available through classroom study and correspondence course.

DEGREE OUTLINE

AREA OF STUDY

COURSE

CREDITS

Biblical Studies

Understanding the Bible
Biblical Exegesis
Homosexuality and the Scripture
Electives

3
1
1
4
9

History of Christian Thought

3
3

Theology

Introduction
Electives

3
3
6

Ethics

Introduction

3
3

Ministries of the Church

Polity
OMP (or CEP effective 1993)

2
18
20

Sexuality Studies

Introduction
Electives

3
3
6

General Electives

13
13

TOTAL CREDITS

60

THE ORIENTATION TO MCC PASTORING (OMP) PROGRAM

The Orientation to MCC Pastoring program is the Practices of Ministry proficiency course required by the Clergy, Credentials and Concerns Committee (CCCC) for the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). It was designed in March, 1983 by the Samaritan Management Team (the governing body, at the time, of Samaritan College); reviewed by the Board of Elders of UFMCC and approved by the CCCC at the UFMCC General Conference XII, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, in July, 1983.

The OMP also meets the Ministries of the Church requirement of the Samaritan College Bachelor of Theology Degree program.

The OMP is one of five areas of proficiency required for all candidates applying for licensure as professional clergy in the UFMCC. For more information concerning the proficiency requirements of the CCCC, refer to the UFMCC Clergy Manual, authorized and published by the CCCC, 1992 revised edition.

To order a Clergy Manual and acquire fee information write to:
UFMCC Church Services
5300 Santa Monica Blvd.,
Suite 304
Los Angeles, California 90029
(213) 464-5100

Purpose

The purpose of the OMP is to supplement the training of professional ministers to pastor Metropolitan Community Churches.

Samaritan College attempts to have as diverse a faculty as possible, representing the people of UFMCC. The underlying assumption of the OMP, is that the best people to train future UFMCC Clergy in the practical areas of pastoring are qualified MCC pastors and lay leaders.

Structure

The OMP is a six-week academic and experiential program, presented in two-week Sections. The entire six-week presentation is currently offered in California. The two-week segments are titled: Section 1, Section 2, and Section 3.

OMP has two divisions: Track I and Track II. Track I is offered during Section 1 and Section 2; Track II is offered during Section 3. Track I is designed to offer the basic academics of pastoring; Track II is designed to offer an academic and experiential professional intensive for experienced pastors and those who have nearly completed their requirements for the professional ministry in UFMCC.

Currently, Section 1 and Section 2 (Track I) are offered at various locations across the USA and Canada at the discretion of Samaritan College during June, July, or August in non-conflicting schedules. The number of program Sections and locations can be increased as the demand for classes increase and Samaritan College qualified staff become available.

Objectives

1. Explore how the various aspects of ministry are applied and or implemented in an ecumenical/inclusive Christian church community.
2. Develop an appreciation for the diversity of the UFMCC and the diversity within the UFMCC leadership, particularly among future clerical colleagues.
3. Encourage the participants (i.e. students, staff and faculty) to develop and/or broaden their personal and professional support systems and their abilities to work cooperatively in ministry with each other.
4. Develop an understanding of the dynamics of oppression, the journeys toward freedom and how these impact the life of the local MCC congregations.

The OMP is an intensive educational experience including class sessions, seminars, and church visitation. Faculty are brought in from all over UFMCC and are required to design their classes to meet the objectives of the program.

Admissions, Matriculation and Requisites

OMP is a combination of post-secondary academic and experiential education. Track II is an upper professional level academic and experiential education. Insofar as OMP is a proficiency requirement of the CCCC, Samaritan College sponsors and supervises the OMP under the authority of the CCCC. Samaritan College certifies and approves instructors and faculty for the program.

To protect student confidentiality and integrity of the educational process, Samaritan College maintains a strict policy of non-interference with student matriculation toward licensure through the CCCC. Therefore, reporting to the Certification Office from Samaritan College only includes normal transcript information. Written authorization to transfer transcript information must be on file with the CCCC.

Students do not have to be enrolled in the Samaritan College Degree program in order to be admitted to the OMP. However, students wishing to pursue the Degree must meet the prerequisite requirements for the Degree as set forth under Samaritan College Degree requirements.

Students who are not pursuing the Bachelor of Theology Degree who enroll in the OMP as initial licensure candidates must meet the prerequisite requirements set forth in the most recently revised edition of the UFMCC Clergy Manual.

All Students who are candidates for initial licensure for the professional ministry in UFMCC must attend the OMP program.

Students who are not pursuing the Degree or licensure for the professional ministry in UFMCC, but expect to have a leadership role in an MCC congregation may enroll in Section 1 and Section 2 of the program for Continuing Education Units. A Continuing Education Unit does not fulfill the CCCC Practices of Ministry proficiency requirement.

Students from other denominations or who have no denomination membership who are seeking supplemental training toward ministry may enroll in Section 1 or Section 2 of the program.

Students who have transcripts showing receipt of a Master of Divinity Degree or who are currently enrolled in an educational institution who have transcripts showing:

1. Pastoral Counseling
2. Christian Education
3. Worship, Rites and Sacraments
4. Preaching

... are not required to take Section 1 and Section 2 of the program but must apply for equivalency and provide documentation.

Clergy who are transferring their credentials from other denominations who have pastored for at least five (5) years and who have the appropriate academic and experiential documentation (according to CCCC definitions) may also appeal to waive Section 1 and Section 2 according to the schedule set forth in the UFMCC *Clergy Manual*.

All petitions for waiver must be approved by the CCCC according to the equivalency process in the UFMCC *Clergy Manual*.

Track II

The OMP Track II program began in 1989. Currently, it is designed as a two-week intensive program to accommodate future

UFMCC Pastors who meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Have finished a Master of Divinity Degree from an accredited seminary.
2. Have completed graduate level seminary coursework in the Section 1 and 2 areas of the OMP.
3. Have at least five (5) years of pastoring experience, transferred from another denomination.
4. Have completed or be in the last year of completing the academic/experiential process that is required by CCCC for those pursuing licensure in UFMCC. This includes Track I.

Students who are not licensed by UFMCC who have pastored MCC congregations and desire additional training who do not have academic documentation must acquire this documentation according to requisites set forth in the UFMCC *Clergy Manual* before enrolling in Track II.

Documentation required for Track II enrollment includes:

1. Transcripts and/or proof of graduation on file in the CCCC office.
2. Equivalency waiver on file in the CCCC office.
3. Proof of denominational credentials and five (5) years of pastoring experience or equivalency on file in the CCCC office.
4. Students must be registered with the CCCC office.
5. Samaritan College may require a letter of recommendation from the student's senior pastor, or if acting in a senior pastor capacity, a letter of recommendation from the District Coordinator certifying that the student is in the final year of preparation for licensure or transfer; a countersignature may be requested from their Education Facilitator or Regional Dean when applicable.

Because Track II focuses on professional issues, applicants are expected to have an experiential and academic knowledge

of all other areas related to pastoring. This includes basics of Pastoral Counseling; Christian Education, Church Administration, Worship and Preaching, and general issues of ministry.

The goal of Track II is to facilitate the application of a general pastoral knowledge specifically to an MCC context in a professional setting.

Track II is not suited for those exploring UFMCC as a ministry option, or persons who have not dealt with the professional processes of becoming a pastor. Additionally, the student is expected to have begun the process of dealing with therapeutic issues about their development as individuals prior to undertaking Track II. While Track II deals with some issues of therapy and therapeutic ministry, it is not designed or equipped for group or individual therapy in connection with a student's personal issues.

Program Description

OMP Track I and Track II is an intensive six-week residency training course which earns a student 18 credits for 252 contact hours. (14 contact hours per credit).

Samaritan College certifies completion of the OMP as an indivisible 18 credit unit on student transcripts upon student request.

Students must complete the registration form which is attached to the annually published OMP Brochure and submit it with tuition and fees according to the published deadline date. Information and materials will be mailed to the student after the registration form, tuition and fees are received in the Administration Office. Included in these materials are:

1. Site Information
2. Travel Information
3. Textbook Listings
4. *Medical Form

5. *Transcript Release Authorization
6. Class Schedule or Syllabus

* These forms must be completed, signed and returned before registration is complete.

Fee Schedule

Registration Fee: \$50.00 non-refundable fee which covers the cost of advance materials and mailings.

Tuition: \$510.00 per two-week Section.

Housing fees and meals vary according to the location and program presentation. These fees are published annually with the program brochure. All students are required to reside at the program site.

Textbooks: Required materials must be purchased prior to the program. Listings are published annually in advance of the program.

All tuition and fees must be paid prior to commencement of the program in accordance with the schedule indicated in the program brochure.

Financial Assistance

Currently, Samaritan College cannot provide financial assistance. However, most UFMCC Districts in The USA and Canada have scholarship funds if there is financial need. The student is encouraged to apply for funding from their District or local Church.

Students of color may petition the Fund For Overcoming Racism for financial assistance. Contact: George Padilla, Chair; 316 W. Ellis Ave.; Inglewood, CA 90302

Samaritan College recommends that all students take the Proficiency course, *Introduction to Sexuality Studies*, prior to enrollment in their OMP. Therefore this Proficiency can be offered prior to Section 1 at the

OMP site as a convenience for the student. Tuition for the course is \$255.00 plus a \$25.00 registration fee for Students not attending the OMP. Presentation of the class is contingent upon a five (5) student minimum enrollment. Any student can enroll, whether they will participate in the OMP or not.

Track I Curriculum

SECTION 1

Pastoral Counseling
Christian Education
Church Administration

OPTION

Introduction to Sexuality
Studies Proficiency

SECTION 2

Preaching
Worship, Rites and
Sacraments

Track II Curriculum

SECTION 3

Sexuality Counseling
and Professional
Ethics
Church Administration/
Church Growth
Dynamics of
Oppression/
Missiology
Ecumenical/Interfaith
Approach to Pastoral
Identity
Self-Care: Maintaining
Self-Esteem

Counseling Services

Wherever the Orientation program is offered, students will be notified of the availability of existing community organizations that offer support for various therapeutic and physical needs (A.A., ACOL, substance abuse, hospitals, etc.). Each student is advised to contact their therapist or other support systems during the program as needed. Each segment will have on call, qualified clergy or lay leadership for individual counseling as needed.

Special Seminars

Special seminars are offered in the belief that these are important adjuncts to the basic curriculum during the year that they are offered. Seminars are subject to revision and change according to the availability of qualified faculty to present the material.

1. Prison Ministry
2. Accessibility Issues in the Local Church
3. Substance Abuse
4. A day with the Founder of UFMCC
5. Grief in the Age of AIDS
6. African-American Traditions of Worship & Preaching
7. AIDS in the Minority Community
8. Homelessness
9. District Government within UFMCC
10. Church Planting/Missiology
11. Ministry to the Leather Community
12. Visit to the Simon Wiesenthal Museum (Holocaust Relics and History)
13. Ecumenism in Worship
14. Memorial Services
15. UFMCC Church Services
16. Varieties of Cross-Cultural Music

TRACK I

1. Basic Principles of Grief Management
2. Lay Ministry

TRACK II

1. Dynamics of Catastrophic Illness on the Life of the Church
2. An Evening with the Founder of UFMCC
3. Family Dynamics in the Church
4. Church Planting

Evaluations

Student: (Exit Interview)
The Dean or a designated OMP faculty meets with each student during the student's final week in the program. This exit interview: evaluates the student's

progress through the program; discusses the student's remaining academic or experiential requirements, if any; explores the student's personal goals and objectives concerning professional ministry. The College Registrar advises the student and interviewing faculty if the student has successfully completed the program to that point.

At the conclusion of the interview an exit interview report is signed by both student and interviewer, and copies are distributed to the student, the student's supervisor, and the student's Samaritan College file. If the student does not have a supervisor at the time of the exit interview, the evaluation is forwarded to the student's District Coordinator.

Faculty:

Each student receives an evaluation form for review of the faculty and course. The evaluations become one of many components of faculty and class review and assists in the development of future program objectives by the Dean.

Program:

Students, faculty and staff have the opportunity to evaluate the program on the final day of Orientation, and offer suggestions to improve future Orientation programs.

The program is evaluated again at General Conference by students who are approximately one year into their ministries, and again by students into their second year of ministry using the goals and objectives as a guide.

Grading

Because of the experiential nature of the Orientation program, letter grades are not given. The student is evaluated as noted above and given credit for completion of the program. CCCC is advised only of the completion of or failure to complete the program. The student must at-

tend and participate in all classes of the program in order to receive credit. If a student is unable to attend or participate in a class or part of a class, for any reason, the student may be required to do a written assignment to make up the time missed or repeat the class in the subsequent program year at the discretion of the faculty and/or Dean.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Correspondence courses are an educational attempt to reach out to the whole Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and other interested persons with quality instruction by mail for clergy, student clergy, and laity. Anyone may enroll in a Samaritan correspondence course by filling out an enrollment form and paying the course fee.

Credits

Samaritan credits are college-level units granted by Samaritan College and are given for completion of correspondence courses. Persons preparing for UFMCC clergy status may use these credits toward meeting their required academic units. Samaritan College students may also use these credits toward graduation from their degree program. It is not possible to earn a Samaritan degree (Bachelor of Theology or Th.B.) through correspondence courses alone. Whereas correspondence courses are fine for supplemental education, they cannot comprise the whole of one's training for professional or lay ministry.

UFMCC Proficiency Requirements

UFMCC Proficiency requirements in Bible, History of Christian Thought, and Polity may be met by correspondence courses. Persons preparing for UFMCC clergy credentials may complete the course, *Understanding The Bible* to meet the

Bible requirement; the course, *Our Story Too*, to meet the History requirement; and the course, *UFMCC Polity*, to meet the Polity requirement.

It is not possible to meet the proficiency requirements in Practics of Ministry and Sexuality Studies by correspondence courses. In order to use a correspondence course to meet a proficiency requirement, a student must enroll in the course for credit and successfully complete the course no later than January 1 of the year in which one applies for licensing or transfer (and within a period of five (5) years prior to this application date.)

Persons who do not want to enroll in the courses for credit but would like a copy of course materials to use in preparation for a proficiency exam may order the course materials only.

Course Schedule

A course schedule for Samaritan correspondence courses is not set. Students may proceed at their own pace through a course as long as they complete it within one year. An extension of one additional year is available for a \$10.00 (USA) administrative fee. It is recommended that at least one lesson be undertaken each week in order to maintain continuity and momentum in the course.

Course Orders

Course orders accompanied by a personal check will be sent when that check has cleared. To expedite an order, a cashier's check or money order should be sent. When a course is sent to a student, he/she will receive the entire course in a binder. In Proficiency courses which have periodic closed-book testing, these tests are ordinarily not mailed with the original course packet, but as the student becomes ready for them during the course.

Fees

The fee for Samaritan correspondence courses varies according to credit hours. A one (1) credit course at \$85.00, a two (2) credit course at \$170.00, and a three (3) credit course at \$255.00. Included in this tuition charge are a study guide/course binder, grading of lessons and tests, and awarding of credit upon successful completion of the course. Textbooks are not included in the cost of the course; they must be ordered separately.

If a student wishes to purchase the materials only of a correspondence course (without having their tests graded or receiving any credit), they may do so. The charge varies according to the size of the course and whether reading materials are included. Textbooks are an additional charge.

All courses must be prepaid in full and in USA funds. Check or money orders should be made payable to Samaritan Correspondence Courses.

Residents of countries other than the USA may pay the USA dollar equivalent in local funds.

Refunds and Transfers

Refunds on correspondence courses are available if the student has not yet started the course and returns all course materials within one month of the date materials are mailed to the student. A full refund (minus a minimum of \$10.00 for shipping and handling charges) will be issued.

If a student wishes to transfer from a correspondence course to the corresponding class, Samaritan College will apply the tuition to the course, provided the student has not yet begun the correspondence course. If any lessons have been graded the student may not transfer.

If the student transfers to a class the student is required to pay the registration fee for the class.

Proficiency Area Courses

Three of the five UFMCC proficiency areas may be met by taking correspondence courses, namely Bible, History of Christian Thought, and UFMCC Polity. Persons preparing to be UFMCC clergy are encouraged to obtain thorough training in each of the five proficiency areas; the proficiency courses alone can only provide a foundational knowledge. Students taking proficiency courses are expected to be able to write essays clearly and correctly. If a student demonstrates a lack of writing ability, he/she may be asked to enroll in college level courses in composition and grammar.

Proficiency Examinations

For three areas of required proficiency in preparing for UFMCC credentials there are three ways of meeting the proficiency. Those areas of proficiency are: History of Christian Thought; Understanding the Bible; UFMCC Polity.

Students may meet the proficiency requirements by taking

the appropriate course through Samaritan College.

These proficiency requirements may be met by having an equivalency of these courses approved by Samaritan College.

Proficiency requirements may be met by passing the proficiency examinations in these areas.

The proficiency examination and the reading materials for the correspondence courses may be ordered in these subjects. When you are ready to take the exam, secure an application from the college. That form requires that you select a date and location for the exam and a UFMCC clergyperson as a proctor who must also sign the application form.

The exams fees are:

1 exam	\$15.00
2 exams	\$25.00
3 exams	\$35.00

When the completed application form and check are received, the examination will be mailed to the proctor to administer. The examination proctor will grade the examination when completed and then forward it to the college for notation in the student's records; the College will notify CCCC that the student has passed the examination (70% grade require for passing).

In case of failure, the examination may be taken again after 90 days by filling out another application form and paying the appropriate fees.



From Scripture to Sermon: Biblical Exegesis and Interpretation (1 credit) \$85.00 plus \$5.00 material fee. Workbook and cassette tape included.

This course explores the Biblical exegesis of and interpretation necessary to the preparation of a sermon. Students will learn to define basic exegetical and hermeneutical terms; to select Scriptural passages for preaching; to perform various kinds of exegesis and interpretation; and to use the exegetical and hermeneutical resources available to them. The textbook is a workbook written specifically for this course by Dr. Jeffrey Pulling.

A major part of the course consists of the student doing exegesis exercises and interpretation of passages and the preparation of sermon outline based on this background work.

This course is designed for students who are preparing for their future preaching role and for the exegesis/interpretation exercise required for the initial clergy credentialing process. Pastors and others who want to improve their sermon preparation skills would also benefit from this course.

UFMCC Polity (2 credits), \$170.00, reading materials included.

Polity is an in-depth study of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. It presents an understanding of the history and development of the UFMCC, a working knowledge of the current programs, leaders, Bylaws, government, and structure of the UFMCC. UFMCC history is explored through General Conferences, development of Bylaws, leaders, and programs. The readings include the *UFMCC Bylaws*, and several articles and essays written by persons in the Fellowship. This course would be helpful for those who teach premembership classes, serve on a local church Board of Directors, or represent a congregation as a delegate at conferences.

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

Homosexuality and the Scriptures (1 credit) \$85.00 plus \$5.00 material fee. Reading materials included.

This course examines homosexuality in the context of the culture, language, and worship of biblical times. Same-gender orientation is also viewed in the context of sexuality in general in the Bible. The various verses and passages used to condemn same-gender relations are explored. The readings used in this course are authored by Robert Arthur, Michael England, and Dr. Jeffrey Pulling. Students will write an essay on the question, "How can someone be a Christian and homosexual?" (one of the required essays for the clergy credentialing process in UFMCC).



Our Story Too (3 credits), \$255.00, Textbooks and tapes \$28.00

While Christianity evolved historically into patriarchal institutions and belief systems, there has always been great variety within Christianity and wide participation by marginalized people. This course explores the historical development of Christianity using the book *Christianity: A Way of Salvation* by Sandra Sizer Frankel; the role of women, African-Americans, and gay and lesbian people in Christianity's growth and development. Readings and audiotapes include Barbara MacHaffie's book *Her Story: Women in Christian Tradition*, John Boswell's tape *Homosexuality, Religious Life and the Clergy: An Historical Overview*; Jeremiah Wright's tape *Spirituality and Justice*, and articles by various authors.

Clarifying and Renewing the Ministry (1 credit) \$85.00, Textbook \$8.00

This course explores the ministry of clergy and the ministry of laity in the context of the whole ministry of the church. The textbook is *The People of God in Ministry* by William McElvaney. The first half of the course deals with professional or pastoral ministry and covers such areas as the burdens and blessings of the clergy occupation, preparation and formation for ministry, spiritual discipline and renewal, measurements and evaluation, and the madness/foolishness of Christian ministry. The second half of the course explores the ministry of all Christians as a listening church, a learning church, a loving church, and a liberating church.

This course is designed for clergy and student clergy to assist them in clarifying what their ministry is and how they can enable the lay members of their church to do ministry. The course is also helpful for lay leaders who want a better understanding of the ministry of the church and what clergy and lay roles are.

Understanding The Bible (3 credits), \$255.00, Textbook \$22.00

This course is a comprehensive survey of the Scriptures. The textbook is the *Abingdon Bible Handbook* by Edward Blair. The focus of this course is an understanding of different approaches to Biblical interpretation; a working knowledge of Bible content; and the content and authorship of every book in the Bible, major characters, and key passages. Additional concerns explored are various Biblical translations; the manuscripts on which the Bible is based; Biblical chronology; Hebrew/Jewish calendar; and the intertestamental period.

Before undertaking this course, students should know the general outline and chronology of the whole Biblical Story and who the primary characters are.

INTERNATIONAL SAMARITAN EDUCATION

Australian Samaritan Education (ASE)

Australian Samaritan Education (ASE) is an autonomous Samaritan College facility with distance education facilities and offers a Bachelor of Ministries degree and Certificate in Pastoral Leadership. In 1992, ASE will be developing courses toward a Graduate Diploma in Theology.

Occasionally, students in the USA, Canada, Mexico (English-speaking) and Europe may enroll in ASE courses if they are already admitted to a program in their own country. These are qualified on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the Samaritan College Dean or Principal and President of Samaritan College and the Dean of ASE.

For details on courses and qualification of ASE contact:

Rev. Cliff Connors
Dean, Australian Samaritan
Education
15 Honor Street
Ermington, NSW 2115
Australia

Samaritan College in Europe

Samaritan College in Europe (SCE) is an extension programme of Samaritan College and consists of a Board of Governors and a Board of Studies which develops and sets its coursework. For more information contact:

Samaritan College in Europe:

Rev. Ian Westby
Chair, Board of Governors
c/o 11 Newlands Ave.
Shirley South Hampton
SO15EP England

Samaritan College in Mexico/Central America

Currently, Samaritan College in Mexico/Central America is an extension program of Samaritan College. Periodically, courses are offered in Spanish to meet the needs of Spanish-speaking students in Mexico. Students may contact the Dean directly or the Samaritan College Administration Office for further details:

Rev. Tomas Garcia
Dean, Samaritan College in
Mexico/Central America
APDO Postal 1-4045
Guadalajara, Jalisco
Mexico

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1992 ORIENTATION TO MCC PASTORING (OMP) FACULTY

BERNARD E. BARBOUR

Dynamics of Oppression

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M.A. Princeton University, Near Eastern Studies
Ph.D. (Candidate) University of Ibadan
Additional study, University of Tunisia
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